

FIVE BATTLE CRUISERS BUT NO DREADNAUGHTS, PLAN OF LOWER HOUSE

Naval Committee, Disregarding Daniels' Program, Presents One-Year Scheme Carrying Total Appropriation of \$240,000,000.

Insures Building of 20 Submarines, 4 Scout Cruisers and 10 Destroyers—Adds 16,500 to Personnel—Secretary of Navy Seemingly Pleased.

Washington, May 18.—Ignoring completely the five-year building program recommended by Secretary of the Navy, Daniels in his last annual report, the House Committee on Naval Affairs yesterday refused to make authorization for any dreadnaughts whatever, but adopted the following construction for the fiscal year 1917:

Five battle cruisers at \$30,450,000 each; each to carry 14-inch guns and to have a speed of 35 knots; 20 submarines, three of which are to be fleet and 17 coast defense submarines, the former 10,000 tons and the latter \$12,250,000; four scout cruisers at \$5,771,900 each; ten destroyers at \$2,225,314 each; one hospital ship at \$2,500,000; one fuel ship at \$1,563,275; and one ammunition ship at \$2,714,680.

The total amount appropriated for new construction in this year's program is \$160,511,317, which, together with about \$10,000,000 provided for the purchase and manufacture of ammunition, will aggregate \$170,500,000. The amount appropriated for this purpose in last year's Naval Bill was \$60,000,000.

Secretary Daniels' plan, which called for an eventual appropriation of \$260,452,214, recommends the following construction for the fiscal year 1917:

Dreadnaughts, 5; battle cruisers, 2; scout cruisers, 15; fleet submarines, 5; coast submarines, 25; gunboats, 2; and hospital ships, 1.

For the five years the secretary asked for 10 dreadnaughts, 5 battle cruisers, 10 scout cruisers, 20 destroyers, 15 fleet submarines, 25 coast submarines, and 4 gunboats.

He recommended the construction of a fuel oil ship in 1917 and another in 1920; an ammunition ship in 1920 and another in 1921; a repair ship in 1921 and a hospital ship this year.

In addition to the authorization for construction the bill will carry \$2,000,000 for aerostatics, appropriations of \$1,500,000 each for dry docks at Norfolk and Philadelphia, \$12,700,000 for aerostatics, and \$10,000,000 for aerostatics, and \$4,500,000 in addition for reserve ammunition. In all, the measure carries a total appropriation of \$240,000,000, which is \$80,000,000 in excess of the total appropriation carried in last year's naval program.

The measure increases the navy personnel to a total of 80,000 men, including marines and exclusive of officers. The addition men for the navy authorized today are 16,500.

Republican members of the committee made an ineffectual effort to increase the strength of the building program as well as to speed up the construction of the ships authorized.

Representative Britten made unsuccessful efforts to have the battle cruisers constructed in 10 months, submarines in one year, scout cruisers and destroyers in 18 months, eight submarines and four destroyers the committee decided are to be built on the Pacific Coast, the date of construction does not exceed that on the Atlantic plus the transportation charges.

After he had heard of the committee's action, Secretary of the Navy Daniels gave out a statement in which he said:

"Of course I think it would have been best if the House committee had reported the five-year program as suggested in my annual report and approved by the President, but I understand that at no time was it possible to secure the vote of a majority of the committee for this larger proposition."

"A very considerable number of the naval officers who testified before the committee showed that they favored building battle cruisers instead of dreadnaughts for a time, owing to the pressing need of this type of ship, which represents the highest type of warship design. The opinion of the General Board, however, in which I concur, was that it was probably wiser to divide our new construction of capital ships this year between dreadnaughts and battle cruisers."

"However, the need for these swift, huge, heavily-gunned ships is so pressing when we consider the other great navies of the world, that I had far rather see the number I suggested increased than diminished. As I said at the time, the programme I presented to Congress represented a minimum and not a maximum of each type."

"Battle cruisers are invariably counted by the naval experts as much 'capital ships' as dreadnaughts, and the strength of navies is reckoned primarily on it strength in capital ships. We have this gained in the report one more capital ship than we asked for the first year."

"While I have not totaled figures myself, I am told that the actual amount of money appropriated for this year in the bill as reported by the committee is more than the amount recommended in my report. The big difference is that the bill covers this year only instead of committing us to a definite increase for the four years to follow."

"So far as the other ships are concerned outside of the capital ships provided, there is no essential difference between those now in the bill and as recommended in my report for the first year."

"I am sorry the battlecruisers were eliminated, and I would be glad if they were restored before the bill came to the President. One thing about the committee's report is extremely satisfying, and that is that members of the committee who voted for only one battleship last year this year voted for five battle cruisers."

Chairman Padgett said he would report the naval bill to the House some day next week. It is the present plan of the Democratic leaders to pass the measure before the meeting of the two national conventions, although Republican opposition to the program agreed upon today may prevent.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH IN ANNUAL ELECTION; NEW CHURCH READY SOON

At the annual meeting of St. George's parish last night, the following officers were elected for the year: Senior warden, C. R. Clarke; junior warden, J. Wilkinson; parish treasurer, L. F. Wakeman; missions treasurer, E. J. Higby; parish clerk, J. G. Raftis; vestry, L. F. Wakeman, E. R. Hunt, J. G. Raftis, C. H. Armstrong, E. B. Caldwell, Jr., G. B. Elwood, J. I. Hamm, E. J. Higby, A. E. Belsie, P. D. Cass, J. S. Cline, Earl G. Wakeman; delegates to the convention, C. R. Clarke and L. F. Wakeman; alternates, Messrs. Armstrong and Cline; auditor, E. R. Hunt.

The rector appointed the following officers: Lay reader, E. R. Hunt; choir master, E. T. Price; organist, Miss Nellie B. Price; sacristan, P. L. Armstrong; secretary-treasurer of parish school, E. J. Higby; parish clerk, J. G. Raftis; secretary of parish school, E. L. Armstrong.

The vestry reported the appointment of Dr. A. E. Belsie as business agent for the parish, and the purchase and construction of the new church, and the appointment of the firm of Briggs & Caldwell as architects.

They also reported the completed purchase of the new church site at the corner of Clifton and Beechwood avenues, and progress in preparations for immediate removal to that site.

Permission was given to the boys of the Maplewood school to play ball on the church's land until the beginning of work on the new building.

OUR NEWTOWN NEWS LETTER

(Special to The Farmer.)

Newtown, May 19.—The funeral of Henry Rubley of Dodgingtown district took place from his late home Thursday afternoon. Interment was in the Elmwood cemetery, Bethel. Rev. Harold Wilson of the Methodist church officiated. The pall bearers were Leonard and Henry Kinde of Newtown, Bernard Moore of New Milford, and A. E. Bevans of Dodgingtown.

The deceased, who was found dead in bed, was 73 years of age, highly respected citizen of that section. He is survived by his brother, four sons and three daughters. The sons are Charles and Christopher of this town, George of Bethel and William of Yonkers, N. Y. The daughters are Kate and Margaret Rubley of Newtown and Mrs. Angus Joy of New Milford.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Read of Palestine, Monday attended the funeral of Mrs. Read's father, the late William Wallace Dayton, whose death occurred at the Soldiers' hospital, Norfolk. He was a veteran of the Civil war, belonging to Company M, Second Regiment, Heavy Artillery, of Connecticut. He was given a military funeral attended by a large number of comrades as well as by relative and friends. Interment was in the State cemetery.

Philip Nichols, the aged citizen, has developed pneumonia. He is looked after by Dr. W. H. Kiernan and a trained nurse.

Hiram Lodge, No. 18, F. and A. M., conferred the E. A. degree on one candidate Wednesday night.

Mrs. Margaret Egan is entertaining her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Donohue, of New York, this week.

Among the members of our summer colony who have returned for the season are Mrs. Frazier and Mrs. Hill to their cottage on Pine street, Miss of Bethel and Philadelphia, to the Le Fan cottage, Walnut Tree Hill, and Attorney William Loushran of New York to Berkshire.

Borough Warden Charles G. Peck has notified the street inspectors that the annual clean-up week will begin Monday, May 22, and continue till May 27 inclusive.

The annual meeting of the Village Cemetery association will be held at 2 p. m., Wednesday, May 24, at the rooms in the Newtown Savings bank. The annual meeting of the Lands End Cemetery association will be held at the Brick school house, Hawleyville, at 2:30 p. m., May 27.

The Woodside Athletic club of Ansonia will give a minstrel show and entertainment at the Town hall, Monday evening, May 29, the eve of Decoration Day. A dance will follow. Music will be by the Kearns orchestra of Bridgeport.

The Dodgingtown Fire company, No. 1, announce a lawn party and dance on Friday evening, May 26, at the grounds and hall of the firemen. A varied program of amusements will be furnished for the pleasure of the attendees.

Joseph Navels of Waterbury, the automobile driver during Danbury Fair week last October ran into and upset the car in which M. J. Cassidy and family of Oxford were riding on the Mount Pleasant road, pleaded guilty in the superior court in Bridgeport, Wednesday, and was fined \$100 for damages and costs of \$75 were added. This case went up by appeal from the decision of Justice H. McCarthy, whose judgment is upheld by the higher court.

Mrs. William Ryan of Middle Gate district is convalescing from an illness of several weeks.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Efficient muzzling of dogs will eradicate rabies?

The protection of the health of children is the first duty of the Nation?

Bad temper is sometimes merely a symptom of bad health?

Insanity costs every inhabitant in the United States \$1 per year?

The U. S. Public Health Service has proven that typhus is spread by lice?

Untreated pellagra ends in insanity?

In the lexicon of health there is no such word as "neutrality" against disease?

TEACHERS MAY SEE INCREASES IN THEIR WAGES

School Committee Recommends Raises at Meeting of Board of Education.

An increase of \$50 per year salary for all teachers and of from \$50 to \$100 per year for all principals was recommended at the special meeting of the board of education last night by President Elmer H. Haven, William R. Webster, Jr., and Nathaniel W. Bishop, the committee on schools. It was known that this committee was working on a plan to increase the salaries of the teachers but members of the committee refused to give out any information until their report last night. The schedule will be adopted at the next meeting of the board to be held June 12. The schedule probably will be effective commencing July 1.

The resolution in the committee's report increasing the salaries of the teachers reads as follows:

Resolved, that the rules referring to maximums be amended as follows: Kindergarten \$850
1st grade, new pupils \$900
1st grade, 2d term pupils \$850
2d grade \$850
3d grade \$850
4th grade \$850
5th grade \$900
6th grade \$900
7th grade \$900
8th grade \$950

"And that a rule be added that, when junior high school departments are established, the teachers of the departmental subjects shall be paid to the same maximum, namely \$950."

"Further, your committee recommends in the same spirit as expressed with reference to the above amendment, that the rule governing the salaries of grammar school principals be changed."

The committee recommends that the salaries of women principals in high schools with from six to eight rooms receive an increase of \$50 the minimum to be \$1,000 and the maximum \$1,250 per year. Women principals with schools from eight to 12 rooms will receive an increase of \$75 with the minimum fixed at \$1,125 and the maximum \$1,500 a year.

Those women principals who have charge of schools with 13 rooms or more will receive an increase of \$75 each per year. For the women principals of schools of from 12 to 16 rooms the minimum will be \$1,125 and the maximum \$1,500 per year; 16 to 20 rooms, minimum \$1,250 and maximum \$1,700 per year; 20 to 24 rooms, minimum \$1,450 and maximum \$1,800 per year; all over 24 rooms, minimum \$1,525 and maximum \$2,000.

The committee recommends for the men principals an increase of \$100 each per year. Men principals in charge of from 16 to 20 rooms will receive a minimum salary of \$1,600 and maximum of \$2,000 per year; 20 to 24 rooms, minimum \$1,800 and maximum \$2,400 per year; 24 to 28 rooms, minimum \$2,000 and maximum \$2,600.

The committee in its report says that it recognizes the efforts made by the teachers to render the most efficient service and that abnormal conditions now prevailing in the city have brought with them the additional cost of living which entitles them to the increase.

There are now 519 teachers and principals who will receive increases in salaries. This force will be increased by 33 at the opening of the fall session.

ST. PAUL'S YOUNG MEN'S CLUB SMOKER ENTERTAINING AFFAIR

The monthly smoker of the St. Paul's Young Men's club was held last evening in the club rooms at St. Paul's parish house. Pinechase was played for several well known selections. Songs were sung by the club members. The entertainment was arranged by the committee.

Harry Ireland recited a monologue. Winifred Neale spoke upon "Gas and its Many Uses." Dick Mansfield sang her domestic happiness, and in 1900 her husband, Capt. Armstrong, received a divorce in Galveston, Tex., the court granting him the custody of their one child.

Among those present were Perry Barnes, Harry Turner, Samuel Cutting, Frank Munich, Harold Jewett, Fred Elliman, Archer Horton, Earl Bunnell, Charles Mercer, Richard Stacey, Stanley B. Stratford, Frank Rogers, Clarence Lister, Harry Ireland, Charles Kamp, George Rogers, Robert Fox, James Giblin, Alfred Jones.

**MME. MELBA'S
BIRTHDAY**

Mrs. Charles Nesbit Frederick Armstrong, the former Helen E. Mitchell, and better known as Mme. Nellie Melba, was born in Melbourne, Australia, fifty-three years ago today, May 19, 1863. The father of the famous prima David was the former Porter Mitchell, a Scotchman and a wealthy merchant, and her mother was of Spanish descent. The future diva began her musical education at the age of three, and at six made her public debut in her native city. In 1882 she became the bride of a young Englishman, Charles Nesbit Frederick Armstrong, the son of Sir Andrew Armstrong. She had received her education in the schools of Melbourne and the Presbyterian Ladies' College of that city, and a professional operatic career was as yet undreamed of. In 1886 she removed with her husband and parents to London, and made one or two essays at concert singing, but without achieving any pronounced success. In 1887 she accompanied her father to Paris, Mr. Mitchell having been appointed a commissioner to the Paris exposition, and there she studied under Mme. Marchesi. It was in October, 1887, that she made her operatic debut as Gilda in Rigolotto, the stage of the Theatre de la Monnaie in Brussels. She was given a cordial reception by the Belgian music-lovers, and was soon engaged for the Grand Opera at Paris, where she appeared with M. Laalle, the famous baritone, in Hamlet. Mrs. Armstrong had adopted "Nellie Melba" as her stage name. "Melba" having been chosen as an abbreviation of the name of her native city. In 1888 the Australian queen of song made her first appearance in London at Covent Garden in "Lucia di Lammermoor." She won high praise from the critics, and the applause swelled in volume when she was heard in Gounod's "Romeo et Juliette" with Jean de Reszke. She enjoyed the advantage of personal in-

struction by M. Gounod in the interpretation of his music, especially in the roles of Juliette and Marguerite. Having conquered London and Paris, Mme. Melba received a special command from the Russian Czar to sing in St. Petersburg, and appeared there with the De Reszke brothers, with whom she later made her first appearance in America at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York. Mme. Melba's artistic success was fatal to her domestic happiness, and in 1900 her husband, Capt. Armstrong, received a divorce in Galveston, Tex., the court granting him the custody of their one child.

NEARLY 20 CASES OF AUTO THEFTS RECORDED

Thefts of nearly 20 autos, taken from various sections of the city and used for joy-rides, many of which were abandoned in wayside roads and other towns are said to have been confessed by three youthful prisoners taken by the police last night and this morning.

Those under arrest charged with theft are Joseph "Blaine," aged 15, 794 Main street, Ernest Hart, 18, 326 Lafayette street, Clarence Clark, 15, 320 South avenue.

The roundup came as a result of the theft of a satchel from the automobile of W. R. Phillips, of 178 North avenue, left standing at Broad and Gilbert streets last night.

The method pursued by the youths, it is said, was to get a battery key fitting one type of car, jump in the machine and ride. In many instances the gasoline gave out in which case the riders were compelled to walk. One return trip by foot is recorded from Newtown to Bridgeport. The cases of O'Brien and Hart, arraigned in court today, were continued until May 23.

Specials for Friday and Saturday

Legs of spring lamb, legs of mutton, lean fresh shoulders, lean fresh native hams, pork tenderloins, hocks, heads, feet, tails and leaf lard, chuck roasts of beef, pot roasts of beef, prime rib roasts, Boston rolls, clove rumps, calves liver, forequarters of lamb and mutton legs and loins of veal to roast, rumps and shoulders to stuff and bake, whole forequarters, choice pot pie pieces, steaming fowls, choice fowl, fresh killed ducks, turkeys, Philadelphia capon, native squab, guinea hens, guinea quab, fancy roasted chickens, Armour's Star hams, plate corned beef, smoked shoulders, Porto Rico oranges, extra large grape fruit, large pineapples, no wgrass butter, new laid eggs. A full line of imported and domestic cheeses, all grades of butter and eggs. Native vegetables—everything in season. A full line of pastry. Bridgeport Public Market and Branch, State and Bank streets, East Main street. Phones.—Adv.

The steamship Ennisbrook, which "underdred near Glace Bay, N. S., has been refloated.

**BRIDGEPORT YOUTH
HELD IN NEW HAVEN
ON SWINDLING CHARGE**

The police department of this city has been notified by the New Haven authorities that G. A. Still, a Bridgeport youth, living with his parents at 173 Pacific street, is held in New Haven for an attempt to swindle.

**BATTLE OF VERDUN
NOT LOST, ASSERTS
OFFICER IN BERLIN**

Berlin, May 14.—English and French assertions that the battle of Verdun has been won by the entente allies are disputed by Major Morah, military critic of the Tageblatt who points to the recent successes won by the Germans and says the French and British are incapable of prosecuting a successful offensive. He says:

"Some days ago the Manchester Guardian announced that the French had been ended and that the French had inflicted their third signal defeat on the Germans, the other two having been at the Marne and at Ypres. One day later the Germans reached the top of Hill 304."

"Not only have the Germans held Hill 304 against desperate French counter-attacks but they have succeeded in extending their new positions. The present military situation is characterized most precisely by referring to the fact that the French and still more the British are conscious of their inability to advance, that they are able to act efficiently only on the defense and as long as they outnumber the Germans considerably."

"French military critics say that the Germans began the battle of Verdun merely for political reasons. A typical instance of a military action undertaken for political reasons is the Gallipoli campaign in which thousands of lives were sacrificed with a retreat at the end as the only tangible consequence."

**FIFTY YEARS IN PRISON,
JOEL WARREN DIES**

Hartford, May 19.—After four years of liberty following more than a half century in the state prison at Wethersfield, to which he was sentenced for the murder of his wife, John Warren died Wednesday afternoon at the home in Manchester of Joel Warren. His brother, it was learned here last night, Death was due to hardening of the arteries. He was 77 years old, and had lived in Mansfield since a short time after he was pardoned, June 15, 1912. The funeral will be held from his home at 1 o'clock this afternoon and burial will be in Storrs cemetery, Mansfield.

Warren was on December 14, 1869, convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. This was but five days after his 21st birthday.

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Week End Special

18 Regular \$10 Refrigerators **\$7.75**
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Baby Carriages and Go-Carts

Right now at the opening of the outdoor season is the time to get a "rig for toddlers"—fresh air and sunshine are the best doctors for the kiddies—hence we suggest that you call and look through our Baby Buggy Department. You'll find an endless variety of Carriages and Go-Carts priced so reasonably as to meet the requirements of any "Pay Envelope."

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The month of June is rapidly approaching, and as always the FAIRCHILD STORE is completely stocked with the enduring—the useful—the practical in Wedding Gifts. First of all—the FAIRCHILD May Sale of Holms and Edwards Silver, now in progress offers an unusual chance for saving upon Silverware of distinction. Dinner Chimes—the softest tones imaginable—mounted on Mahogany—\$2 to \$25. Rock Crystal—odd shape dishes, beauty personified—\$7.50 to \$75. Art Bronze Sterling Silver—very handsome. \$2 to \$15. Diamonds, Cut Glass and Elegant Presentation Watches.

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Still is alleged to have telephoned an order to Bradley, Smith Co., candy dealers, for wares estimated in value at \$20, giving the name of a well known dealer in New Haven. One of the boxes ordered was stolen and Still was arrested.

The Carbon Steel Co. is reported to have received an order for 22,000 tons of steel bars from the Italian government.

The mine-layer San Francisco, which was damaged while ashore on Nantucket Shoals, arrived at Portsmouth, N. H., to go into drydock for repairs.

Farmer Want Ads. One Cent a Word